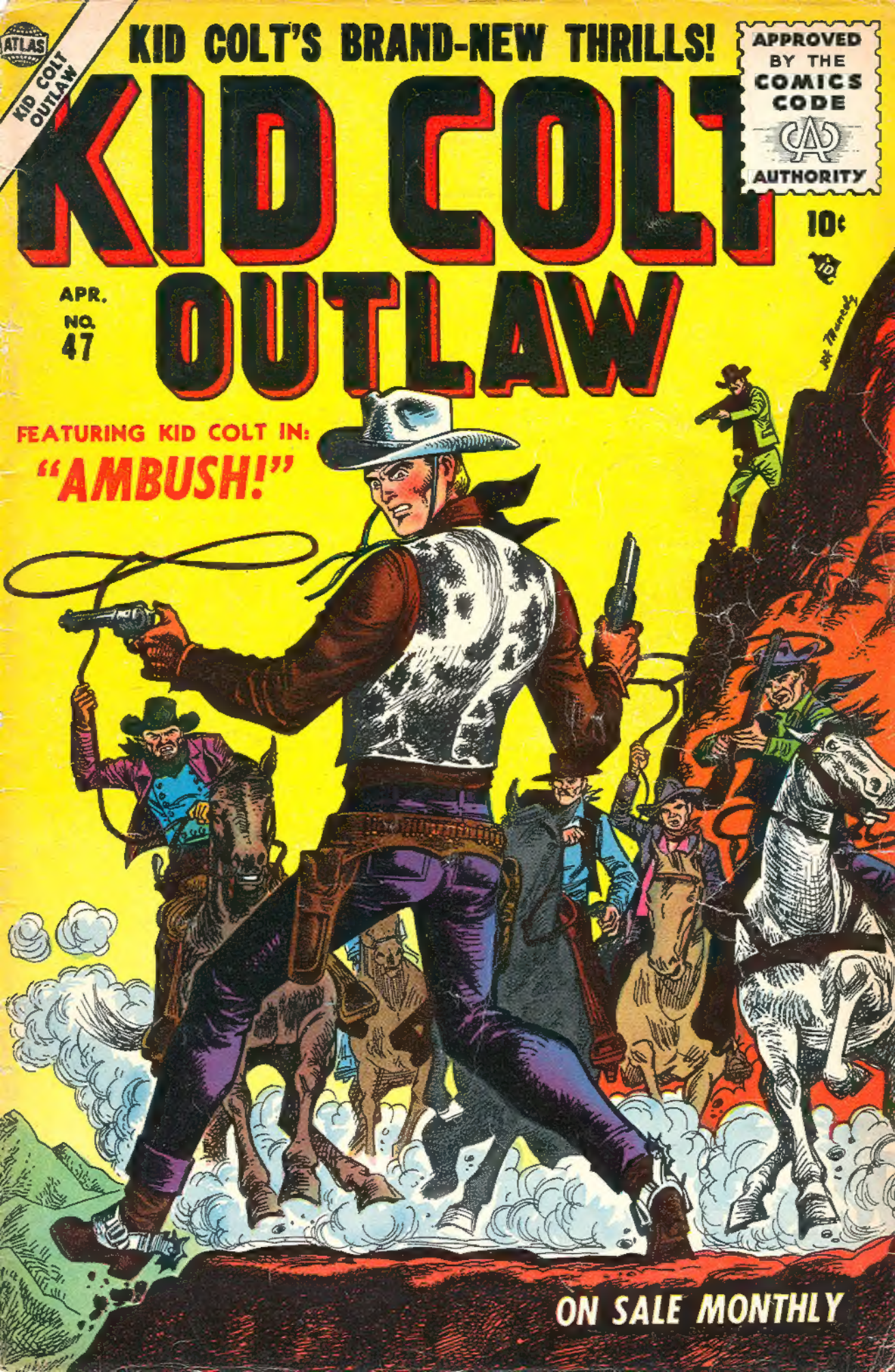
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KID COLT OUTLAW
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
KID COLT OUTLAW
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NO.
47
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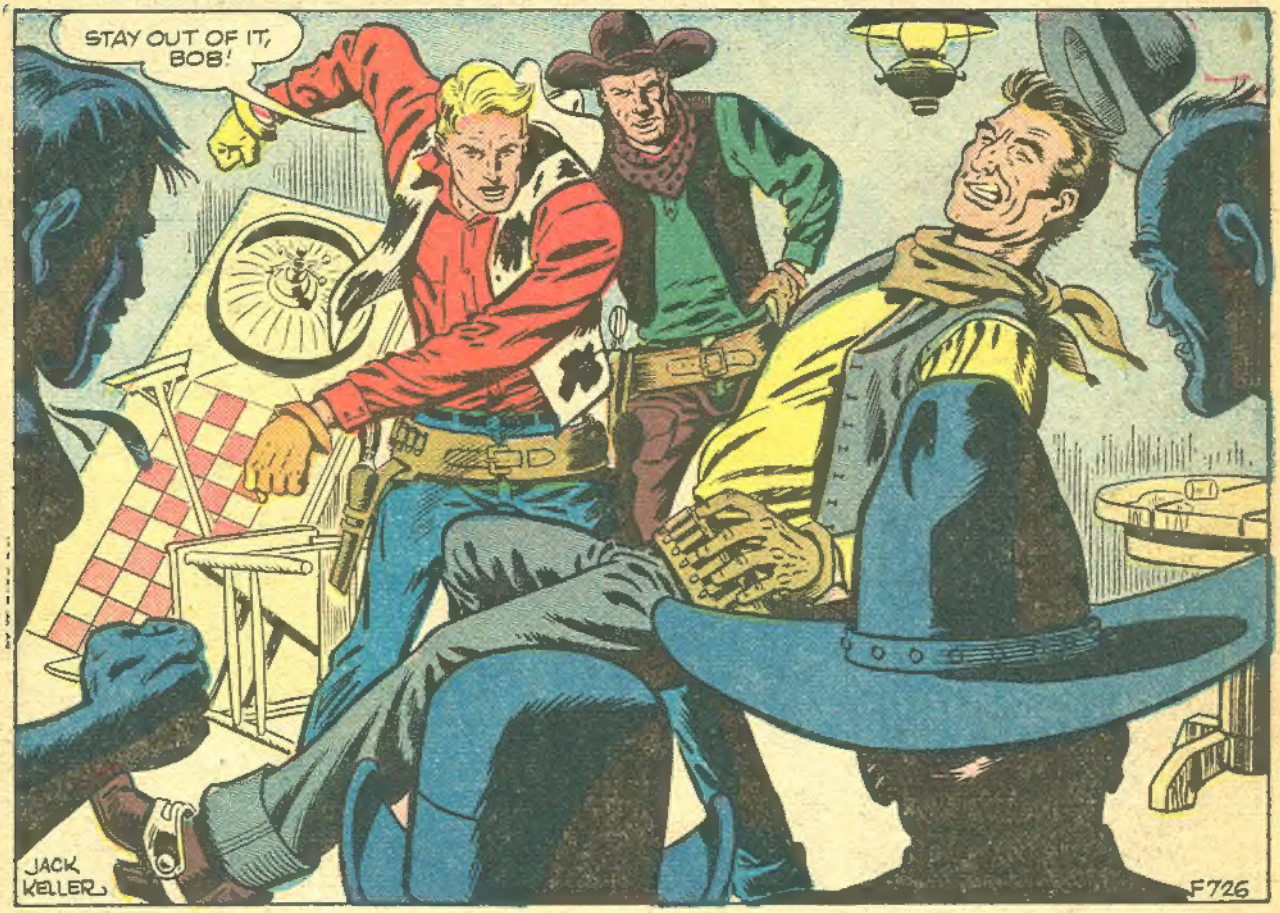
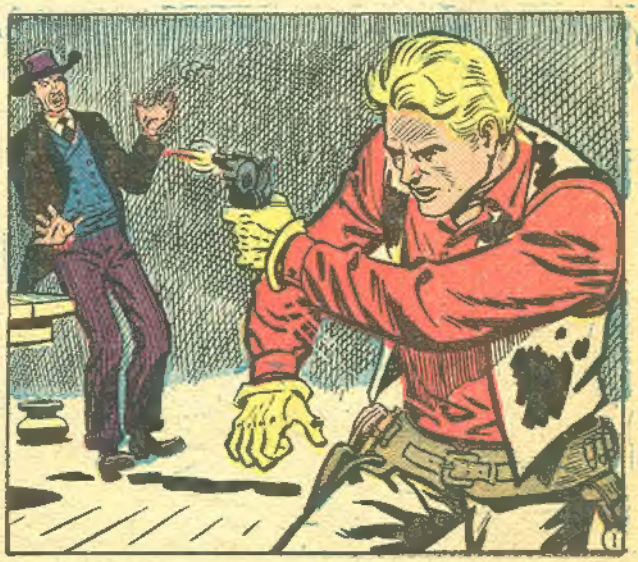
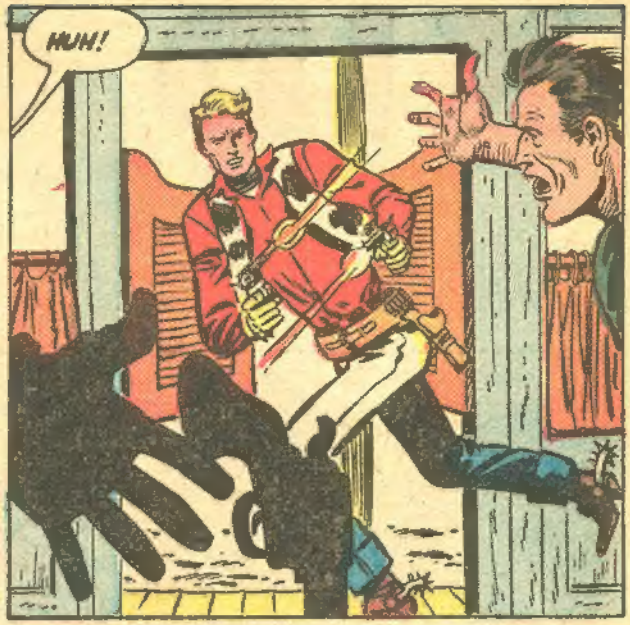
KID COLT OUTLAW

THEY CAME FROM ALL DIRECTIONS, A STREAMING TIDE OF ASSORTED VILLAINY, BUT THE FAMED *KID COLT* HELD HIS GROUND, AND THEN SLOWLY, BEFORE HIS HAMMERING FISTS, THE TIDE BEGAN TO TURN...



WHAT FOLLOWED WAS MORE THAN THE EYE COULD SEE! A BLUR OF MOVEMENT, A SPURT OF ORANGE, AND THEN THE SPLINTERING CRASH...



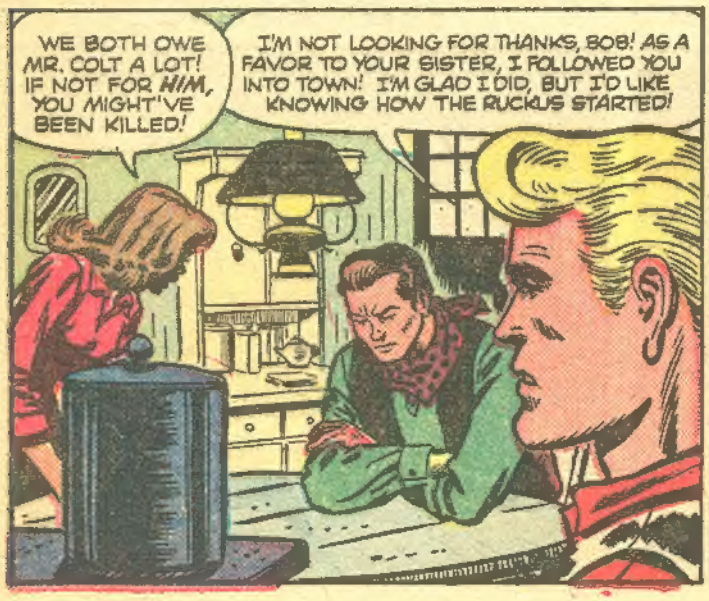


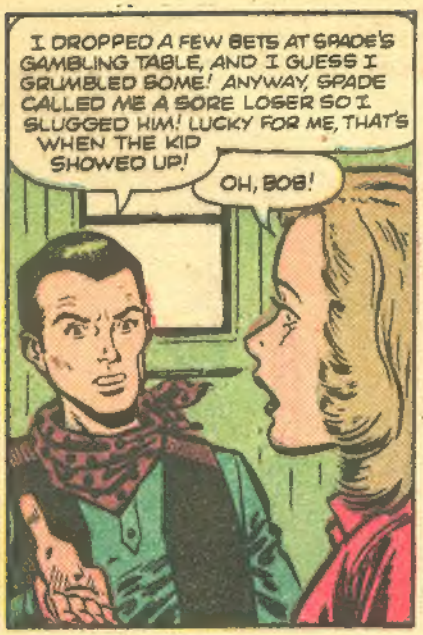
SECONDS LATER, THE EARTH POUNDED TO THE HEAVY BEAT OF THEIR HORSES' HOOFS...

MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE SALOON...

YUH MEAN YOU'RE GONNA LET 'EM GET AWAY WITH IT?
THEY'LL PAY ALL RIGHT, ESPECIALLY THAT YOUNG BOB FLETCHER! HE STARTED THIS MESS, BUT I'LL BE THE ONE TO FINISH IT!

NOT LONG AFTERWARD IN YOUNG BOB FLETCHER'S CABIN...

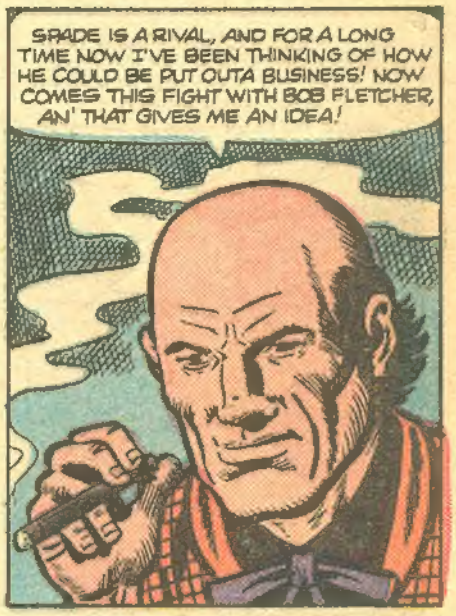

WE BOTH OWE MR. COLT A LOT! IF NOT FOR *HIM*, YOU MIGHT'VE BEEN KILLED!
I'M NOT LOOKING FOR THANKS, BOB! AS A FAVOR TO YOUR SISTER, I FOLLOWED YOU INTO TOWN! I'M GLAD I DID, BUT I'D LIKE KNOWING HOW THE RUCKUS STARTED!


I DROPPED A FEW BETS AT SPADE'S GAMBLING TABLE, AND I GUESS I GRUMBLED SOME! ANYWAY, SPADE CALLED ME A SORE LOSER SO I SLUGGED HIM! LUCKY FOR ME, THAT'S WHEN THE KID SHOWED UP!
OH, BOB!

I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU TWO PIECES OF ADVICE, BOB! ONE IS, STAY CLEAR OF GAMBLING, AND THE SECOND IS KEEP THAT TEMPER UNDER WRAPS! IF YOU DON'T, IT MIGHT LEAD TO A KILLING AND IT COULD BE YOUR OWN!

MEANWHILE, IN THE BACK ROOM OF ANOTHER GAMBLING HOUSE IN TOWN...

THIS FEUDIN' BETWEEN YOUNG FLETCHER AN' SPADE GIVES ME AN IDEA! WORKED RIGHT, I'M THE ONE WHO STANDS TO GAIN!
WHAT'RE YUH DRIVIN' AT, ROCKY?
SALOON


SPADE IS A RIVAL, AND FOR A LONG TIME NOW I'VE BEEN THINKING OF HOW HE COULD BE PUT OUTA BUSINESS! NOW COMES THIS FIGHT WITH BOB FLETCHER, AN' THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

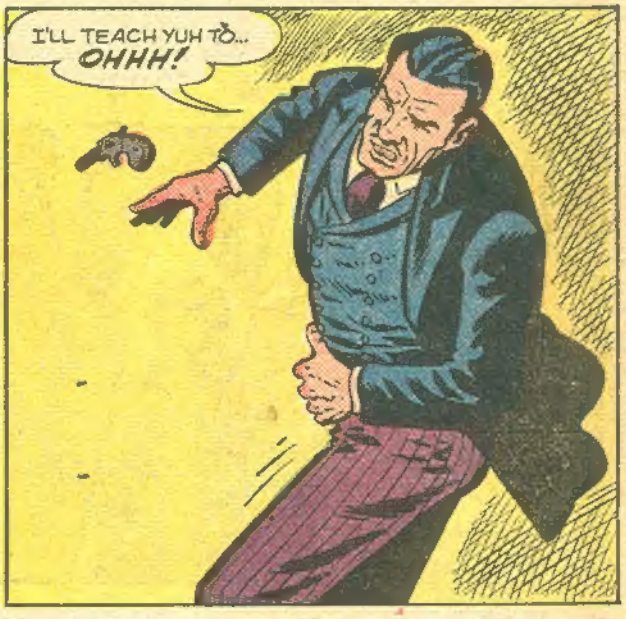
THE KID HAS A TEMPER! ALL WE GOTTA DO IS STIR IT UP A LITTLE!
I GET IT! WE GET THE KID REALLY RILED ON SPADE! WE GET HIM SO MAD, HE'S READY TO GO OUT GUNNIN' FOR HIM!

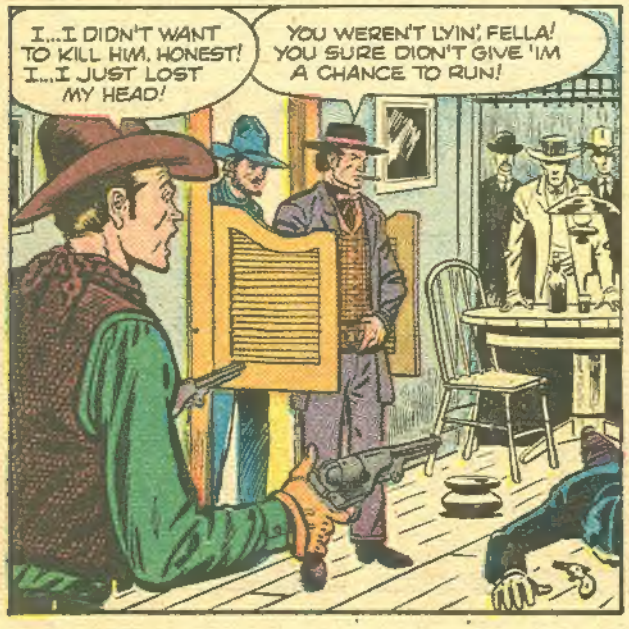
TWO DAYS LATER, WEB HAD HIS CHANCE...
IT AIN'T MY WAY TO GO AROUND REPEATIN' THINGS, BUT WHEN SPADE CALLED YUH A YELLA SKUNK... THAT GOT ME MAD!
WHAT ELSE DID HE SAY? I WANT ALL OF IT!
WELL...HE ALSO CALLED YUH A POLECAT AN' A MANGY COYOTE, AN' HE SAID THE SECOND HE LAYS EYES ON YUH, EITHER YUH'LL START RUNNIN' OR STOP LIVIN'!
HE DID, HUH?
WELL, YOU TELL THAT SNAKE THAT BOB FLETCHER DON'T SCARE! TELL HIM THAT I'LL BE COMIN' IN TONIGHT, AN' HE WON'T EVEN HAVE A CHANCE TO RUN!
SURE, BOB!
SURE, I'LL TELL 'IM! IT'LL BE A PLEASURE!
THAT NIGHT, WHEN THE KID APPROACHED THE FLETCHER PLACE...
I PROMISED SALLY I'D DROP BY AND...HOLD ON! THAT LOOKS LIKE BOB RIDING OUT AND IN A MIGHTY BIG HURRY TOO!
WHAT IS IT, SALLY?
IT'S BOB! YOU'VE GOT TO STOP HIM... HURRY!
HE WOULDN'T SAY, BUT I KNOW IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH SPADE! THERE'S GOING TO BE TROUBLE! YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HE LOSES HIS TEMPER!
4

I KNOW ALL ABOUT HIS TEMPER, SALLY! I WARNED HIM ABOUT IT! THAT'S WHY HE'LL HAVE TO GO THIS ALONE! SHOOT HIS WAY OUT AS BEST HE CAN!
BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!

TWENTY MINUTES LATER, AS TWO FIGURES STARED DOWN MAIN STREET...

WITH AN OMINOUS SOUND, SWINGING DOORS CREAKED OPEN...





SUDDENLY...

THAT'S RIGHT, BOB! YOU COULDN'T KILL ANYONE, BECAUSE YOUR GUNS ARE EMPTY! YOUR SISTER EMPTIED THEM THIS MORNING BECAUSE SHE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOUR QUICK TEMPER AND THE TROUBLE IT MIGHT GET YOU IN! YOU RODE OFF BEFORE SHE COULD TELL YOU!
EMPTY!
THEY ARE EMPTY!
CLICK!
CLICK!
I'M NOT GONNA SWALLOW THAT! I'M GONNA...
SOMEONE SHOT SPADE THROUGH THE DOOR, AND THAT'S WHERE I SPOTTED YOU TWO SKUNKS! AND I'M READY TO BET ANYTHING YOUR GUNS ARE STILL WARM! SUPPOSE WE CHECK AND FIND OUT?
YOU'RE NOT GONNA...OHH!
YUH MEDDLER! I'LL...
THE FOLLOWING MORNING AFTER THE KILLER HAD BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE SHERIFF...
I MEAN IT THIS TIME, KID! NO MORE TEMPER, AND NO MORE GAMBLING! I'M GOING TO DO LIKE SALLY WANTS... SETTLE DOWN AND WORK THE RANCH!
I RECKON I CAN BELIEVE YOU THIS TIME, BOB!
TOO BAD HE WOULDN'T STAY ON! WE SURE COULD USE HIS KIND AROUND THE PLACE!
YES, WE SURE COULD!
THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WESTERN THRILLS LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

Treasure Chest "LUCKY" RINGS

SKULL RING

ORIENTAL RING

SNAKE RING

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☐ ORIENTAL RING

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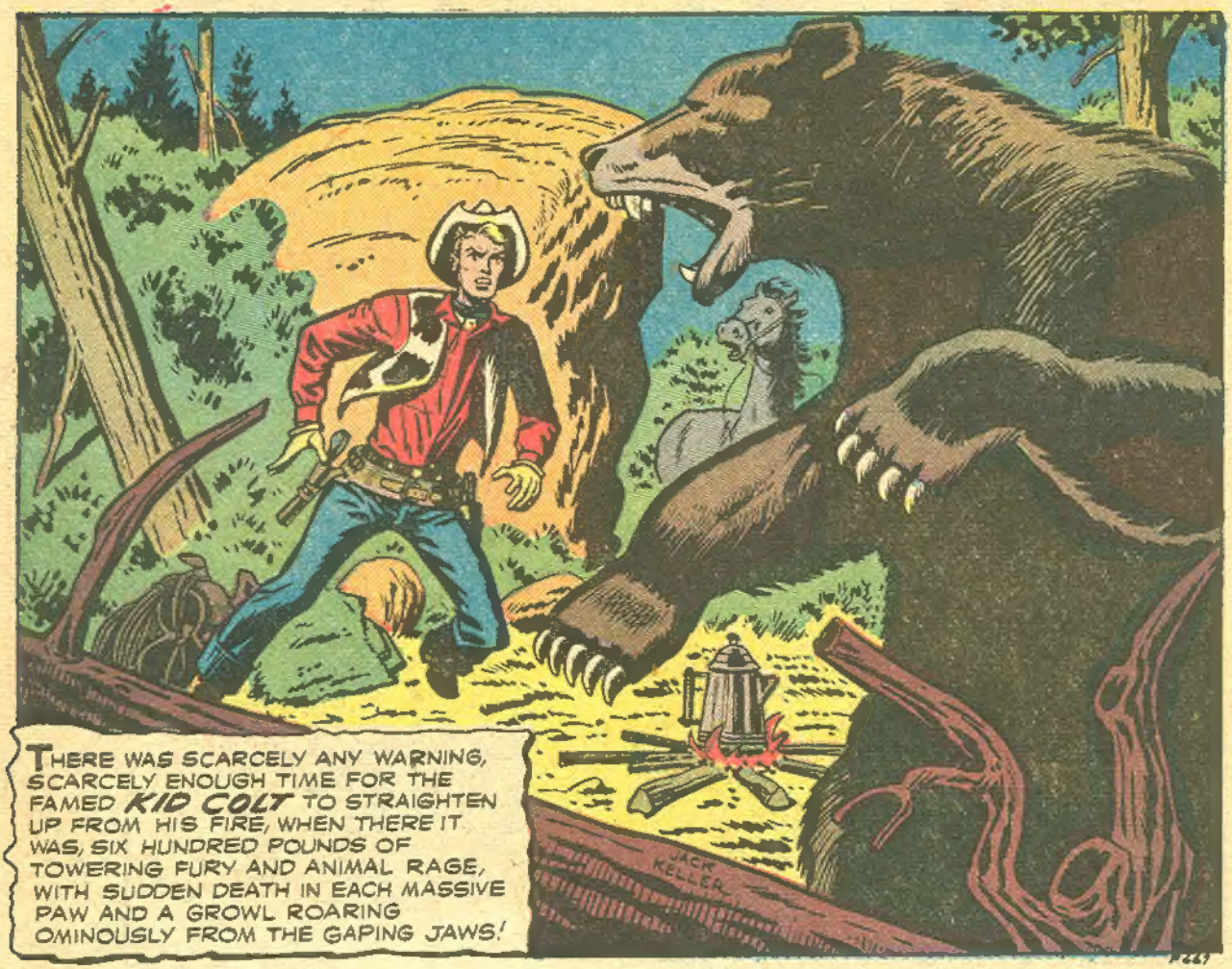
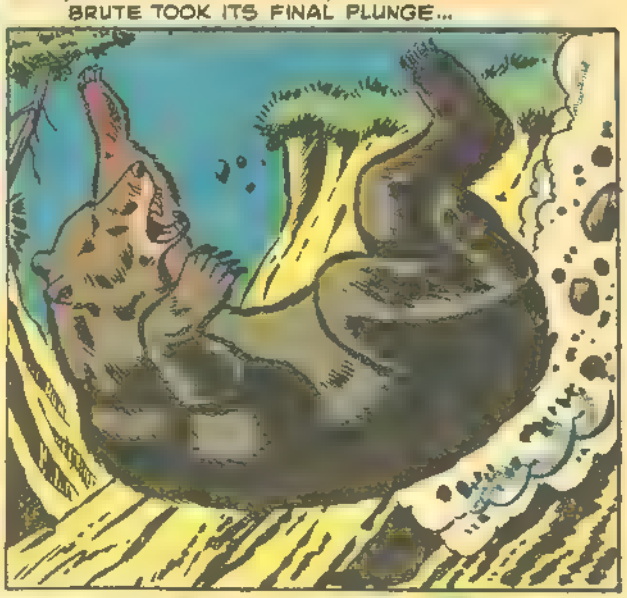
KID COLT OUTLAW


THERE WAS SCARCELY ANY WARNING, SCARCELY ENOUGH TIME FOR THE FAMED KID COLT TO STRAIGHTEN UP FROM HIS FIRE, WHEN THERE IT WAS, SIX HUNDRED POUNDS OF TOWERING FURY AND ANIMAL RAGE, WITH SUDDEN DEATH IN EACH MASSIVE PAW AND A GROWL ROARING OMINOUSLY FROM THE GAPING JAWS!
JACK KELLER

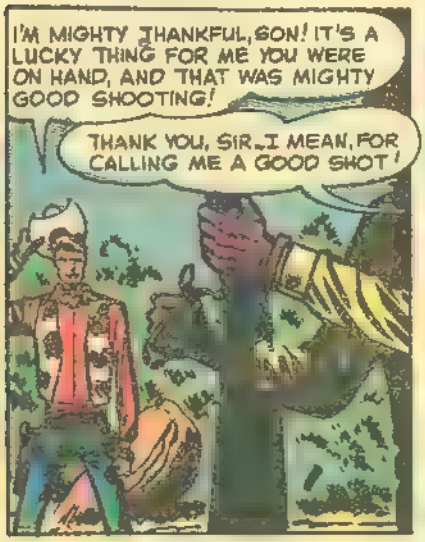
BUT AS THE KID STEPPED BACK, A BOULDER UNDERFOOT SENT HIM REELING...

AND THEN, WITH SLAMMING FORCE...

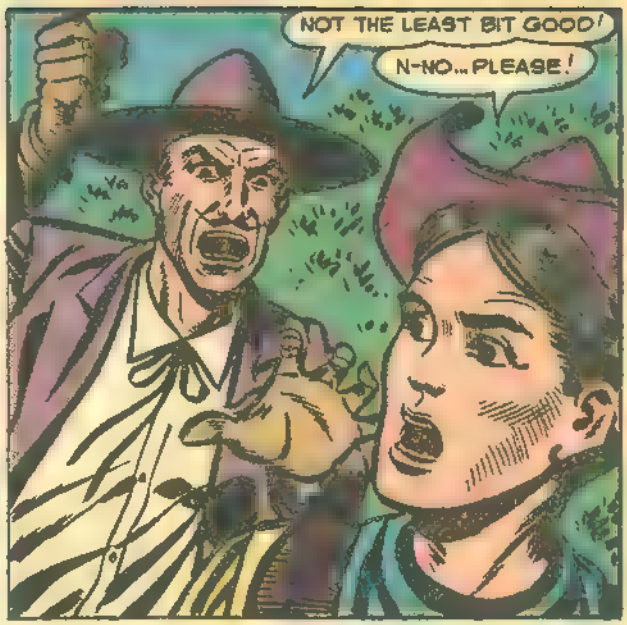
THEN, WITH CRASHING FORCE, THE BULLET-RIDDLED BRUTE TOOK ITS FINAL PLUNGE...



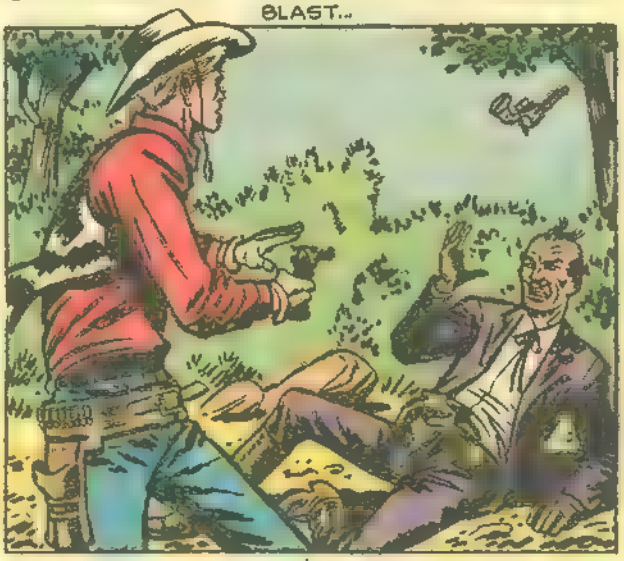
FOR A FEW MOMENTS, NOTHING WAS SAID... THEN THE GRATEFUL KID SPOKE UP...


I'M MIGHTY THANKFUL, SON! IT'S A LUCKY THING FOR ME YOU WERE ON HAND, AND THAT WAS MIGHTY GOOD SHOOTING!
THANK YOU, SIR... I MEAN, FOR CALLING ME A GOOD SHOT!

BUT I CAN'T DO EVERYTHING WRONG... AND I DID GET THE BEAR! IT WAS GOOD SHOOTING, MISTER, WASN'T IT?
THE BEST, BOY... AND I'M SURE YOUR UNCLE STEVE WOULD AGREE!



DUMPED TO THE GROUND, THE ENRAGED MAN DREW, BUT THE ROAR OF THE KID'S GUN WAS A SHATTERING BLAST...



LET ME STAY WITH YOU, MISTER! PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME GO BACK WITH HIM! HE'LL BEAT ME SOMETHING AWFUL!
FOR A BOY WHO SAVED MY LIFE, I RECKON THAT'S ASKING LITTLE ENOUGH!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

WANT A U.S. GOVERNMENT JOB?

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN GET PAID UP TO $4,205.00 A YEAR TO START

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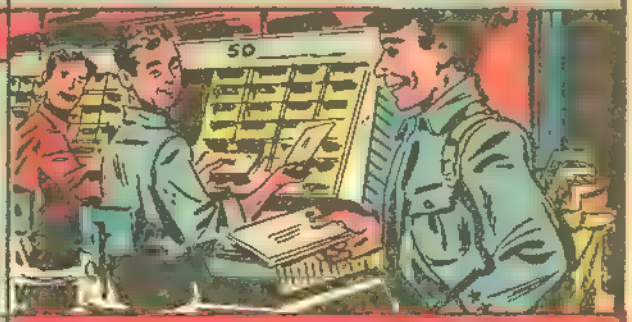

OFFICE CLERK, BORDER PATROL, OTHERS

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PRINT PLAINLY—STICK TO POSTAL CARD & MAIL TODAY

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____ Vet? _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

☐ If you are under 17, check here for Booklet C

THAT'S TRUE, TED! IF YOU STILL WANT TO STAY, YOU'RE WELCOME!
I SURE DO, MISTER COLT.. MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME!
YOU'VE HEARD IT, MISTER! START RIDING!
I'LL BE BACK! I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET PAID OFF IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!
THAT SAME NIGHT, WHEN THE NEW FRIENDS MADE CAMP..
AND THAT'S THE WAY IT'S BEEN! EVER SINCE DAD DIED, UNCLE STEVE HAS BEEN REAL MEAN! THE ONLY FRIEND I HAD ON THE RANCH WAS OLD CHARLIE! HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO SHOOT AND RIDE!
CHARLIE SOUNDS REAL GOOD, TED!
I'LL DO MY BEST TO WORK OUT SOMETHING WITH YOUR UNCLE! MAYBE HE'S EVEN THINKING THE WHOLE THING OVER RIGHT NOW AND HE'S SORRY ABOUT EVERYTHING!
HE'S PROBABLY THINKING ABOUT IT, BUT NOT LIKE YOU THINK!
AT THAT SAME MOMENT, UP AT THE RANCH..
MAYBE THIS KID COLT SHOWING UP IS A BREAK AFTER ALL! THE WAY THE WILL STANDS, MY NEPHEW IS DUE TO INHERIT THE RANCH WHEN HE COMES OF AGE!
BUT IF SOMETHIN' WERE TO HAPPEN TO HIM, THE SPREAD WOULD PASS ON TO YOU!
EXACTLY! WE CAN SAY IT WAS A KIDNAPING! WE'LL EVEN MAKE UP A NOTE ASKING FOR TEN THOUSAND, AND THEN SIGN IT WITH KID COLT'S NAME!
MEANWHILE, WE KNOCK OFF THE BOY AN' COLT! WE C'N SAY THAT COLT PANICKED AND DONE IN THE BOY, AN' THEN WE KILLED COLT! THERE'D BE NO WAY OF PROVIN' IT DIFFERENT!
WE C'N EVEN
SHHHH... THE DOOR!
4

SO IT'S YOU, CHARLIE!
YUH ASKED FER A PITCHER OF LEMONADE, SO I BROUGHT IT!

I'M WORRYIN' ABOUT THE BOY, MR BARLOW! IF HE'S KIDNAPED LIKE YOU SAY, WE SHOULD BE CALLIN' THE SHERIFF!
AND GET HIM KILLED?

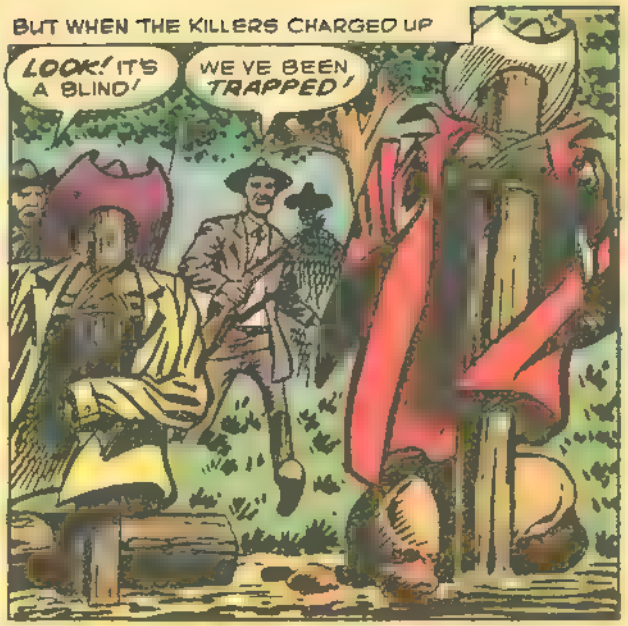
JUST STAY OUT OF IT, CHARLIE.. AN' CLEAR OUT!

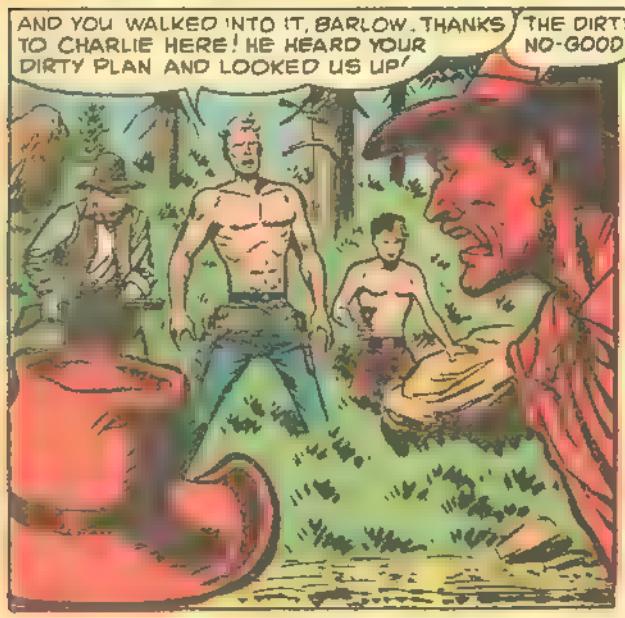
AND WHEN CHARLIE LEFT..
NOW LISTEN CLOSE! I'VE GOT A PLAN!

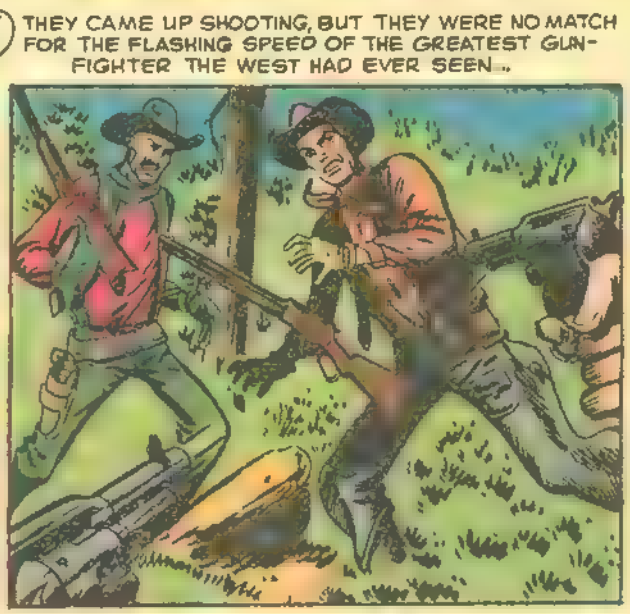
MEANWHILE, AT HIS CAMP SITE, THE KID WRESTLED WITH THE PROBLEM..
POOR LAD! HE'S REALLY TIRED OUT! I RECKON THERE MUST BE AN ANSWER! BUT WE'LL WAIT AND SEE WHAT MORNING BRINGS!

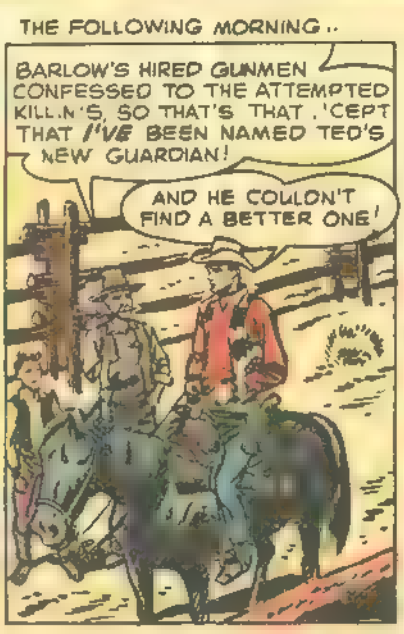
BUT WHEN DAWN CAME
HOW FAR?
NOT MUCH! ONE OF THE BOYS SPOTTED THE CAMP ABOUT AN HOUR BACK! IT'S JUST AHEAD A PIECE!

LOOK! THERE THEY ARE!
DRAW A BEAD, BOYS! WITH THEIR BACKS TO US, IT'S PERFECT!
5








THE FOLLOWING MORNING ..
BARLOW'S HIRED GUNMEN CONFESSED TO THE ATTEMPTED KILLIN'S, SO THAT'S THAT. 'CEPT THAT I'VE BEEN NAMED TED'S NEW GUARDIAN!
AND HE COULDN'T FIND A BETTER ONE!

GEE, CHARLIE, DO YOU THINK HE'LL BE RIDING BACK SOMEDAY?
I DUNNO, TED! THAT'S THE ONE THING ABOUT THIS KID COLT! THAR'S NO TELLIN' WHERE HE'S HEADIN' OR WHEN HE'LL GET THAR! THAR'S JUST NO KNOWIN' AT ALL!
THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WESTERN THRILLS LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

JOIN THE TREASURE HUNT FOR $

URANIUM

"ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION BONUS PAYMENTS OVER $2,500,000.00" ... A.E.C. Bulletin

"ATLAS PAYS URANIUM PROSPECTOR $9,000,000.00" ... N. Y. Times

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WINDY TRAIL

TAD BOWMAN, foreman of the Twisty S ranch, stuck his nose out of the bunkhouse door Very cautiously. Outside, as far as the eye could see, was a glittering plain of white, broken only in the near foreground by the split rails of the big corrals and two cow barns. He shivered, drew back and closed the door.

"Ten above," cowpoke Dave Randall said. Dave was sitting on the edge of his bunk. "Sun's shinin' now, but we'll get more snow tonight. Lots more!"

Tad nodded morosely. He built himself a quirly. "Got a match?" he asked.

"Good gosh, Tad, that's the third box you've borrowed from me this mornin'!" Dave complained. He handed a match-box over, nevertheless and gazed silently round the bunkhouse. It was empty, except for themselves. Most of the other ranch hands were already running the near-last of the big herd to the railroad for trans-shipment out East. Three others were still out in Grassman's Valley, trying to round up a lost herd. "And that's my last box," Dave continued, glumly.

Bowman lit his quirly and stood looking out the window, his eyes narrowing. He turned, banging his fist on the bunkhouse table.

"Why did it have to snow four days?" he demanded. "It's unseasonable, Dave. And we're liable to lose that other herd because of it. Cattle prices are goin' down, so gettin' that lost herd to market can mean savin' our profit. *Not* gettin' 'em to market could mean losin' it." He shuddered. "Times haven't been that good. There wouldn't be enough dough to pay all hands, much less keep things runnin' 'til Spring." He nodded his head violently. "And you're right. We'll get more snow tonight. Even if they have found the lost herd, we've got no place to stow it, with the cow barns full of calves!"

"And that means the herd could freeze to death standin' out in the open all night!" Dave assented. "Tarnation, Tad, there's no point in battin' your brains out about Joe and Jim and Snub findin' the herd, if there's no cover for 'em. Find or lose 'em, we'll have to take the loss!"

"But I won't take the loss!" Tad raged. "There's always the stand of pine down near the entrance to the Valley that could shelter 'em . . ." He paused suddenly, as a gunshot rang out in the still, crisp air. Both men rushed to the window. A horseman appeared suddenly on the crest of a far rise toward the north edge of the spread's yard.

"It's Snub!" Dave said excitedly. "He's signalin' us. Let's go! They must have found the herd!"

Tad whirled to the big pine closet at one end of the bunkhouse, opened the doors and pulled out two short but heavy winter coats. Dave was already getting on his heavy snow boots fashioned of thick cowhide and warm, but still slim enough to slip through a saddle stirrup. Tad got his on, tossed one of the coats to Dave. He glanced through the window. Snub had pushed his way a little down the rise and was waiting.

At last, both men dressed adequately against the weather, went through the bunkhouse door. Dave glanced at the thermometer as he passed the doorpost.

"Five above now. She sank five degrees in as many minutes, Tad. That means she'll hit twenty or more below by four or five in the morning!" Dave said.

But Tad Bowman only pushed out into the snow impatiently toward the small horse barn on the other side of the bunkhouse. His body bent against the wind.

"Tain't the cold alone that can kill longhorns without shelter," he said out of the side of his mouth to Dave. "It's this wind, and she's risin'!"

The snow, partly packed down by the strong wind, impeded their progress, but they got to the barn in only a few minutes. Quickly they saddled two of the horses. A moment later they were clumping through snow a yard deep out of the barn.

Tad led the way past the summer corrals, out into what he

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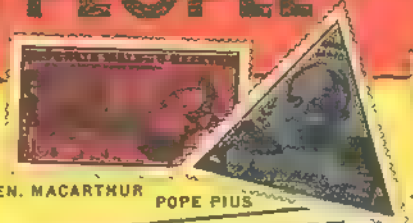

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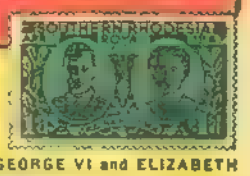

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18. Hold My Hand

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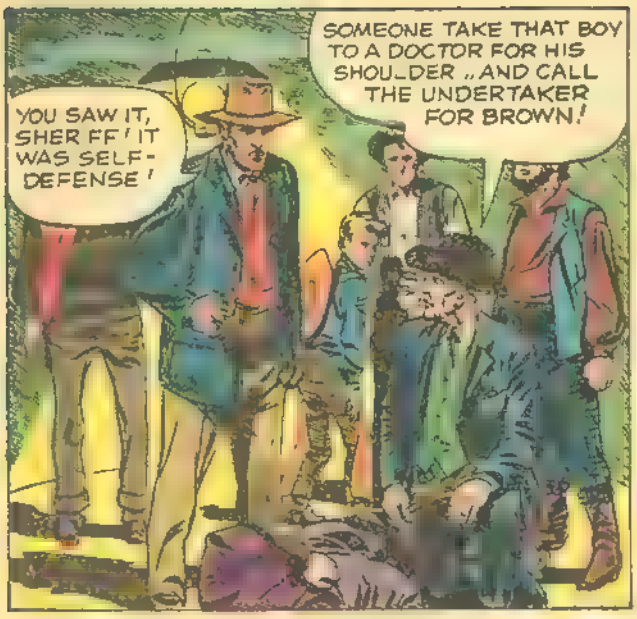
DOUG WILDEY
F6/6
LOOK... IT'S PRUTT CLAY!
STAY OUTA HIS WAY... 'PEARS LIKE HE'S ON THE WARPATH!
DANCE
I'M LOOKIN' FOR JAKE BROWN!
4

SO THERE YA ARE, BROWN! HIDIN' FROM ME WON'T HELP YA!
I WUZN'T HIDIN', CLAY! AIN'T NO PLACE IN THIS COUNTY A MAN CAN HIDE FROM YOU!
I WARNED YA IF YA DIDN'T HAVE THE MORTGAGE MONEY BY NOON I'D FORECLOSE! IT'S AFTER NOON... WHERE'S MY MONEY?
YOU KNOW I AIN'T GOT $400... THE RANCH IS YOURS!
NO, DAD... DON'T GIVE HIM THE RANCH! YOU'VE WORKED ALL YOUR LIFE FOR THAT RANCH!
STAY OUTA THIS, BOY!
I'LL TEACH YOU TO THREATEN ME WITH A SHOTGUN!
NO... CLAY... DON'T!
UGH!
YOU MURDERIN' SWINE! MY BOY WASN'T THREATENIN' YA! HE WASN'T AIMING THAT GUN! BUT NOW I AM... I'LL GET YUH!
I HATE DOING THIS! I'M A MAN WHO DETESTS VIOLENCE... BUT IT'S SELF-DEFENSE!
OOOHH!

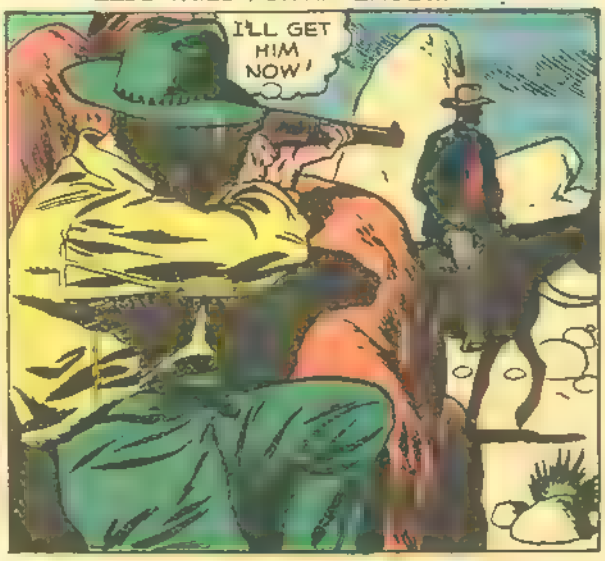

YOU SAW IT, SHERIFF! IT WAS SELF-DEFENSE!
SOMEONE TAKE THAT BOY TO A DOCTOR FOR HIS SHOULDER .. AND CALL THE UNDERTAKER FOR BROWN!

YEAH... I SUPPOSE SO! BUT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WIDOW BROWN NOW? SHE AND HER SON HAVE NO PLACE TO LIVE... YOU CAN'T LEAVE THEM HOMELESS IN INJUN COUNTRY!
THAT'S NO CONCERN OF MINE, SHERIFF! I'M NOT A GOOD SAMARITAN... I'M A BUSINESS-MAN!

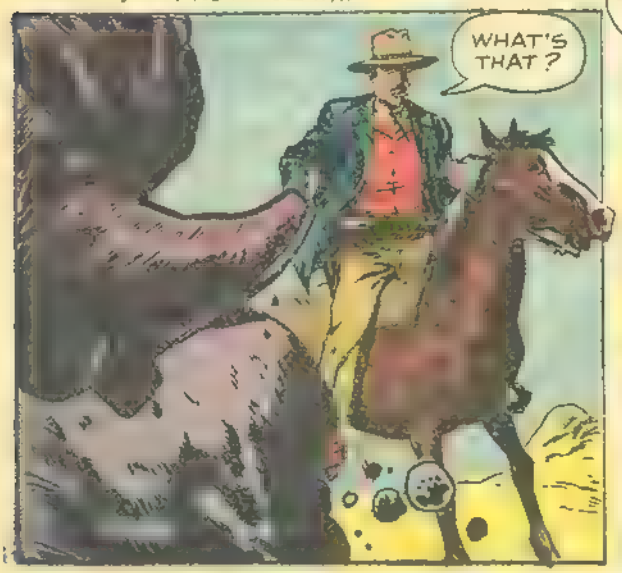
THE DAYS STRETCHED INTO WEEKS AND MONTHS... AND PRUTT CLAY KEPT TAKING OVER RANCHES AND FARMS... NOT A WEEK WENT BY WITHOUT AT LEAST *ONE* MORTGAGE BEING FORECLOSED!

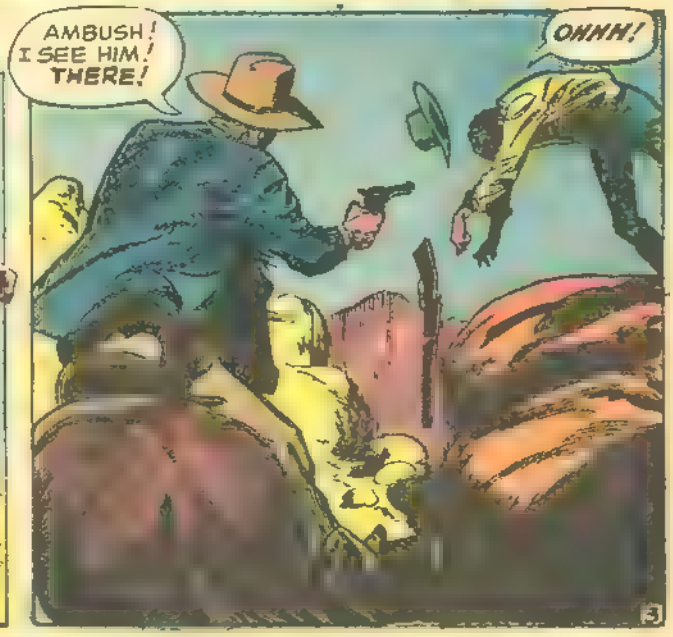
BUT, CLAY, THIS IS INJUN COUNTRY! WHERE CAN I GO? WHAT CAN I DO?
YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE YOU GOT INTO DEBT! NOW CLEAR OUT!

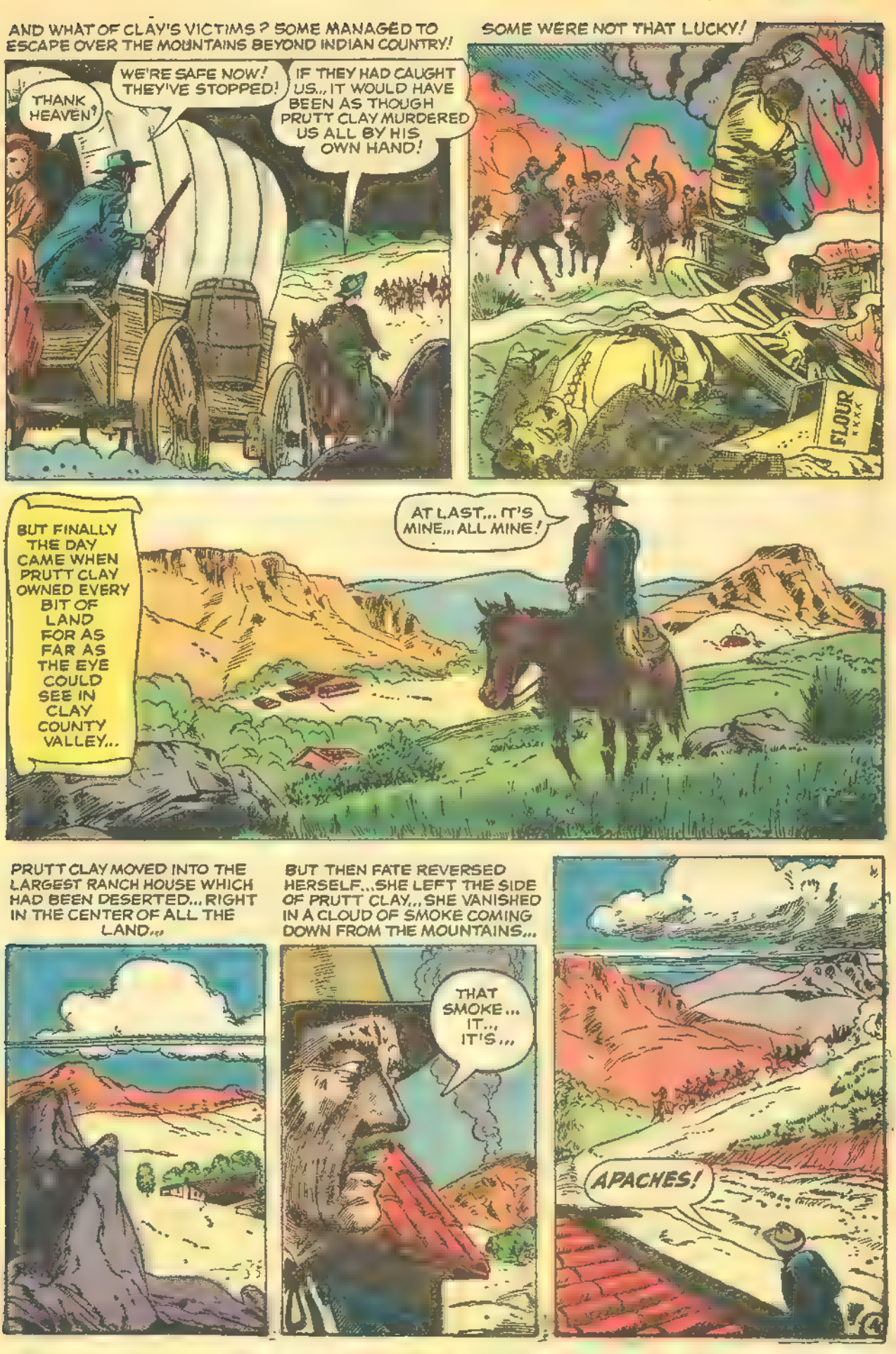
SOME OF THOSE WHOM CLAY HAD MADE HOMELESS TRIED FOR REVENGE...



BUT FATE SEEMED TO BE ON THE SIDE OF PRUTT CLAY...






AND WHAT OF CLAY'S VICTIMS? SOME MANAGED TO ESCAPE OVER THE MOUNTAINS BEYOND INDIAN COUNTRY!
THANK HEAVEN!
WE'RE SAFE NOW! THEY'VE STOPPED!
IF THEY HAD CAUGHT US... IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AS THOUGH PRUTT CLAY MURDERED US ALL BY HIS OWN HAND!
SOME WERE NOT THAT LUCKY!
FLOUR
BUT FINALLY THE DAY CAME WHEN PRUTT CLAY OWNED EVERY BIT OF LAND FOR AS FAR AS THE EYE COULD SEE IN CLAY COUNTY VALLEY...
AT LAST... IT'S MINE... ALL MINE!
PRUTT CLAY MOVED INTO THE LARGEST RANCH HOUSE WHICH HAD BEEN DESERTED... RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF ALL THE LAND...
BUT THEN FATE REVERSED HERSELF... SHE LEFT THE SIDE OF PRUTT CLAY... SHE VANISHED IN A CLOUD OF SMOKE COMING DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAINS...
THAT SMOKE... IT... IT'S...
APACHES!

I'VE GOT TO SIGNAL FOR HELP... THE RANCHERS WILL COME AND DRIVE THEM OFF!
BUT THEN PRUTT CLAY REALIZED A DEADLY FACT...
BUT THERE ARE NO RANCHERS... I... I'VE DRIVEN THEM ALL AWAY!
THAT'S WHY THE APACHES ARE DARING A LARGE ATTACK... THEY SEE THAT THE OTHER RANCHES ARE DESERTED... THEY... THEY KNOW I'M ALONE!
WHAT WILL I DO? WHAT WILL I DO? SAVE ME!
AIEEEEE!
YES, PRUTT CLAY... IT'S YOUR LAND NOW... ALL OF IT! ARE YOU SATISFIED, PRUTT CLAY? WAS IT WORTH IT?
THE END
5

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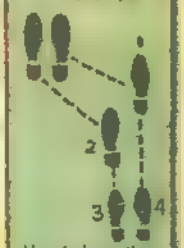

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...CONTINUED

knew must be the road that led up toward Snub. The road snow had been packed down for days and it was less deep. Along the corral rails hung huge icicles, glittering in the sun.

Ahead of them, Snub waited. Their horses plodded through the softer snow that was itself about two feet deep. Five minutes took them near to the top of the rise. Tad waved to Snub.

"Find the herd?" he yelled, as they came closer.

"We found 'em," Snub said, gloomily. "Joe and Jim are back up near the Valley now, drivin' 'em all south. Won't be more than an hour and a half before they're practically here!"

"Good!" the foreman exclaimed. "We'll help you guide 'em in to shelter in that pine forest, where the wind can't get at 'em!"

"No you won't," Snub said, whipping his nag's head around and leading them to the top of the rise. "A fire started in the north end of the stand half an hour ago, how we don't know. The wind's blowin' north and holdin' it back, but it won't take long for the flames to wipe out the whole stand!"

As he spoke, the men and their three mounts topped the rise, and Bowman uttered an exclamation. From end to end of the north horizon, the mile-wide, six-mile long pine forest stretched bleak and black. And at its north end, bright red flames ate steadily away at the trees.

"That fire will stampede the cattle," Tad grunted. "Even all five of us won't find it easy, but we'll have to rely on just four."

"Four?" Dave asked, surprised.

"You're high-tailin' it for that break in the stand down there," Tad said, pointing. "You can start a backfire there that'll burn out maybe two hundred trees, but it'll save the whole south end of the stand, and we can still shelter the herd. Now light out, quick!"

Dave drew a deep breath, nodded and struck spurs to his nag. A moment later, Snub and Tad Bowman were heading north, away from the south end of the pine stand.

By hard driving, the foreman and the ranch hand came up with the first wave of the herd within twenty minutes. Joe and Jim were at the west side, keeping the frightened longhorns from breaking too far from the advancing front of fire and thus losing themselves in the trackless wastes to

the west. By riding up and down the front of the herd, the ranch hands and the foreman kept the herd under control. But the fire was advancing faster now. Bowman looked up toward the break in the stand of pine where he'd sent Dave Randall.

"Where's that backfire?" Snub yelled desperately.

And then a shock went through Tad Bowman. He'd been wondering why it was taking so long for Dave to start the backfire in the tinder-dry pine. But now he remembered he'd taken Dave's last box of matches!

The herd thundered on straight down the Valley, toward the spreading fire, its course aimed at the distant south end of the pine forest which was now threatened with complete extinction by fire. South the blaze raced, flames crackling and hissing. The foreman's jaw fell as he realized that nothing could save the herd without a backfire, and that Dave was without means of setting it.

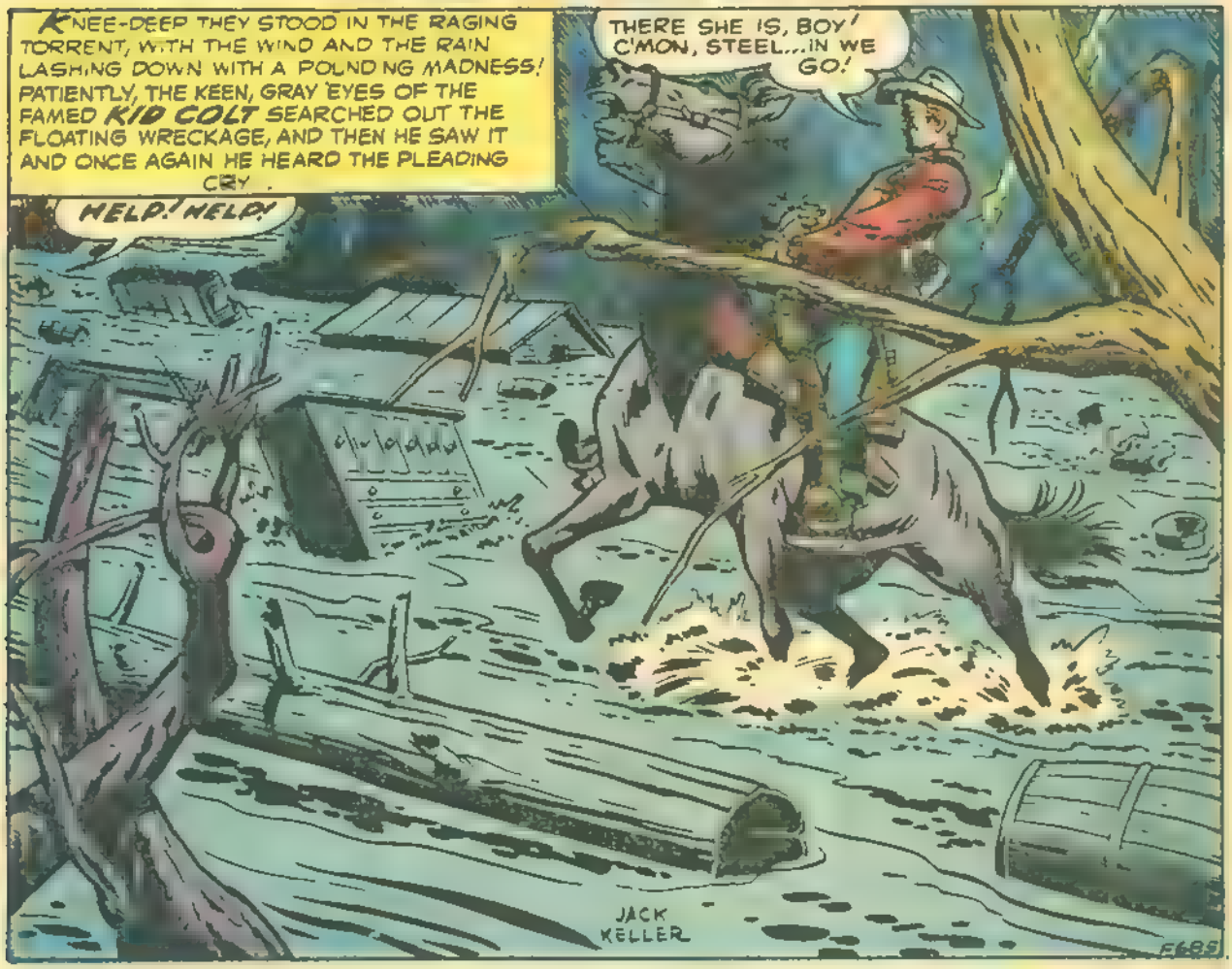
Suddenly he heard a shout. It was Snub, pointing. Instantly, Tad's spirits rose. At the break in the stand of pine, a small but bright fire was burning. Quickly, as they all watched, the wind picked it up and hurled it north, away from the south stand.

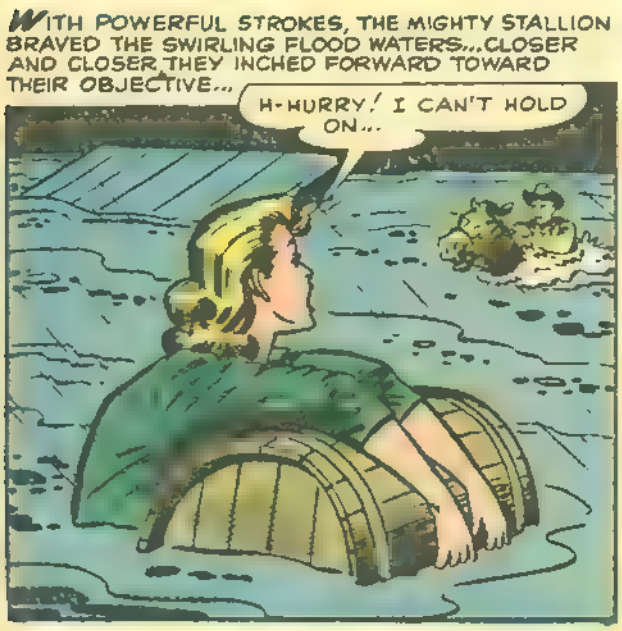
Bowman breathed a sigh of relief. Somehow, Dave had got a fire going without matches in an incredibly short time. Slapping his reins across the saddle bow, he headed south ahead of the herd, knowing now it would stampede straight for the shelter of the unburned part of the fire. He came up with Dave, who was riding toward him, about ten minutes later. "How'd you do it?" he yelled.

"That'll teach you not to borrow matches," Dave said. "I didn't have a match left, so I gathered up a lot of pine branches, busted a piece of icicle off a tree trunk, and used the icicle as a burning-lens, to focus the sun's rays. Took me half an hour to do it, but it worked, finally. I guess the north fire started 'bout the same way when the sun hit through an icicle on some pine needles." He slowly built a quirly as the herd thundered past to safety, then turned to Tad Bowman again, grinned, and asked, "Got a match?"

THE END F-802

KID COLT OUTLAW


KNEE-DEEP THEY STOOD IN THE RAGING TORRENT, WITH THE WIND AND THE RAIN LASHING DOWN WITH A POUNDING MADNESS! PATIENTLY, THE KEEN, GRAY EYES OF THE FAMED KID COLT SEARCHED OUT THE FLOATING WRECKAGE, AND THEN HE SAW IT AND ONCE AGAIN HE HEARD THE PLEADING CRY...
HELP! HELP!
THERE SHE IS, BOY! C'MON, STEEL...IN WE GO!
JACK KELLER
F685


WITH POWERFUL STROKES, THE MIGHTY STALLION BRAVED THE SWIRLING FLOOD WATERS...CLOSER AND CLOSER THEY INCHED FORWARD TOWARD THEIR OBJECTIVE...
H-HURRY! I CAN'T HOLD ON...

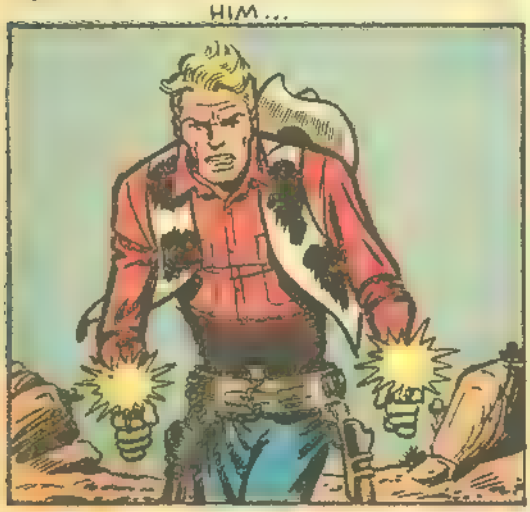
WHEN THEY GAINED THE OPPOSITE SHORE, AND THE COMFORT OF A SMALL FIRE...
I- I'M VERY GRATEFUL, MR. COLT! IT LOOKED LIKE THE END!
I SAW YOU FURTHER UPSTREAM, BUT I LOST YOU AT THE BEND! ANYWAY, I'M GLAD IT WORKED OUT ALRIGHT!
I KEEP THINKING OF THE OTHERS! IT WAS SO SUDDEN, SO COMPLETELY WITHOUT WARNING! ONE MINUTE WE WERE A PEACEFUL COMMUNITY, AND IN THE NEXT, CHAOS!
THAT'S THE WAY IT IS WITH FLASH FLOODS!
TRY AND GET SOME REST NOW! I WANT TO CHECK THE RIVER AGAIN, AND IF IT QUIETS DOWN, WE CAN TRY GETTING YOU BACK TO TOWN BY MORNING!
THANK YOU AGAIN... SO MUCH!
POOR GIRL... SHE'S SURE WORN OUT! I WOULD HAVE LIKED CHEERING HER UP, BUT THE TROUBLE WITH THESE STORMS IS WHAT COMES AFTER THEM!
FINALLY, WITH THE COMING OF DAWN, THEY PLODDED THEIR WAY THRU A SEA OF MUD...
LOOK, MR. COLT! THAT'S MAYVILLE STRAIGHT AHEAD!
THIS WAS MAYVILLE, OR WHAT WAS LEFT OF IT! MUD, WRECKAGE AND OVER ALL AN OMINOUS AIR, LIKE THE SILENCE OF DEATH...
BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT, IT WAS SHATTERED BY THE POUND OF HOOFS, AND THE EXPLODING FURY OF A DOZEN HAMMERING GUNS...
GO TO IT, BOYS! TAKE YORE CHOICE OF ANY-THIN' MAYVILLE'S GOT TUH OFFER!
YAHOO!
YIPEE!
2

SHOOTING! WHAT CAN IT MEAN?
I RECKON IT'S HUMAN VULTURES! THESE LOOTERS HAVE NO RESPECT FOR OTHERS' MISFORTUNES! YOU'D BETTER WAIT HERE WHILE I HAVE A LOOK!
MEANWHILE, IN MAYVILLE'S GENERAL STORE...
LOOKA HERE, BOYS! THIS TILL IS REAL LOADED!
SO'S THE FOOD DEPARTMENT, HOAKES! WE'RE GONNA HAVE OURSELVES A REAL PICNIC!
SAY, WE GOT COMPANY!
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO? THIS IS MY SHOP!
I'LL SHOW YUH WHAT I'M UP TO!
HUH?
WITH A QUICK MOTION, THE LOOTER WHEELED AROUND...
YUH DID WRONG HORNIN' IN, MISTER! I'M GONNA BEAT YORE EARS OFF!
THAT'S EASIER SAID...
...THAN DONE!
OHHHH!

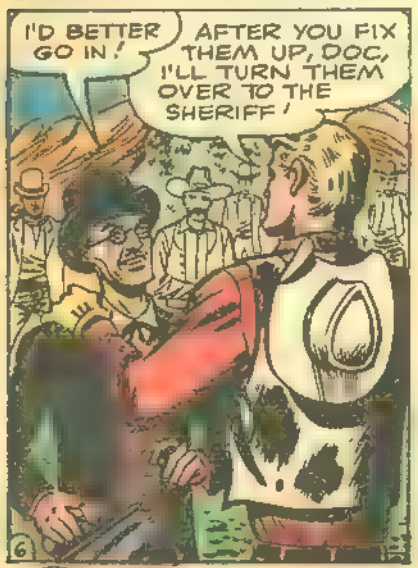
THIS WILL KEEP YOU TOO BUSY FOR GUNPLAY!
NOW, GET ON YOUR HORSES AND DON'T EVEN LOOK BACK! JUST KEEP RIDING AND THE FURTHER YOU GET, THE HEALTHIER YOU'LL BE!
SLOWLY, THE MUFFLED POUND OF THEIR HOOFBEATS DWINDLED INTO SILENCE, AND THEN THE KID STEPPED OUTSIDE...
OUR HATS ARE OFF TO YUH, MISTER!
YOU CALLED THEIR HAND AN' THEY RAN LIKE SKUNKS!
WE'RE MIGHTY OBLIGED!
MY NAME'S DOCTOR MILLER, SON! OUR VALLEY HAS HAD A BAD TIME OF IT, AND WE'VE EACH HAD OUR SHARE OF MISERY, ME INCLUDED!
I'M MIGHTY GLAD TO SAY YOU'RE NOT INCLUDED, DOCTOR...
I RECKON YOU'RE THINKING YOUR DAUGHTER IS LOST, BUT I PULLED MISS MILLER OUT OF THE RIVER LAST NIGHT!
HOW ABOUT THAT, HENRY?
WE RE SURE GLAD, DOC!
AND WHEN FATHER AND DAUGHTER WERE REUNITED...
I WAS SO WORR ED, DAD! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK!
FORGET WHAT'S HAPPENED, HONEY! RIGHT NOW THERE'S WORK FOR ALL OF US!
SUDDENLY...
THAT LOOKS LIKE CURLY ADAMS!
LOOKS LIKE SOMETHIN'S WRONG!

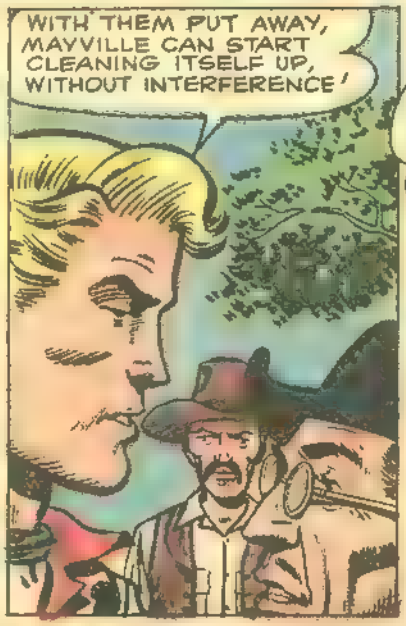
BUT WHEN THE RIDER PULLED UP...
HE'S BEEN SHOT!
GENTLY, BOYS...GET HIM ON THE GROUND!
LOOTERS...CLEANIN' OUT THE VALLEY! FIRST THE GREYSON PLACE...THEN THE COLE'S...
I GOT TWO OF 'EM... THEN... OHHHH...
DO YOU THINK?..
THEY'RE THE SAME ONES ALRIGHT!
WE'D BETTER SADDLE UP, MEN!
I'M COMING TOO! I WON'T BE USEFUL TO YOU WITH A GUN, BUT THERE MIGHT BE NEED FOR A DOCTOR!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER, WHILE THE LOOTERS CONTINUED THEIR WAVE OF DESTRUCTION...
HEY, HOAKES! C'MERE AND LOOK!
WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
WHY, IT'S THAT NO-GOOD MEDDLER AN' SOME FANCY DUDES FROM MAYVILLE! C'MON... LET'S BLAST 'EM OUTA THE COUNTY!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, KID?
I TOLD THOSE HOMBRES TO KEEP RIDING, OR I'D MAKE THINGS UNHEALTHY FOR THEM! I AIM TO SHOW 'EM I'M A MAN OF MY WORD!
5

So he stepped forward, daring to move in where other men would turn and run! His face was a grim mask of determination, while his twin colts blazed a fiery path before him...



The kid turned, and started back the way he had come...





Several weeks later, as Mayville was rebuilt out of the wreckage and the mud..

I WISH I COULD HAVE MADE HIM STAY, FATHER!
WE ALL DO, GAIL, BUT HE'S THE ROVING KIND! RECKON HE'LL ALWAYS BE ON THE MOVE, LENDING A HELPING HAND WHERE HE'S NEEDED!
MAYVILLE DINER

THE END

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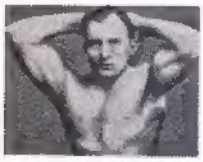
THEY MAILED THIS COUPON

. . . and look what I did for them!



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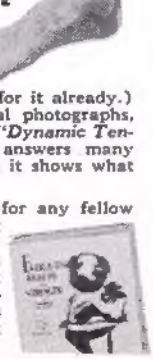

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THIS CANDY MUST TASTE AS GOOD AS OR BETTER THAN YOUR FAVORITE CANDY OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Now at last science has discovered a new delightfully thrilling way to take off fat—to lose up to 25 lbs. safely! The secret is that Kelpidine Candy satisfies your craving for high calorie foods! It keeps you from overeating—the reason most doctors give for being fat! It's the best aid to will power, cuts your craving for foods!

NO DANGEROUS DRUGS! NO HARDSHIP DIETS!

Here is thrilling news for fat folks! You can lose up to 25 lbs. in 25 days by simply nibbling on tasty appetite satisfying candy, whenever you are tempted to overeat.

YOUR MONEY BACK IF YOU DON'T REDUCE TO THE WEIGHT THAT MOST BECOMES YOU!

Thousands of people were amazed to find that this delicious candy plan actually takes off weight—without dangerous drugs, starvation diet, or hard-to-follow-methods. Here's one way to reduce that you will want to continue with to keep off fat! The Kelpidine Candy Plan helps you curb your appetite for fattening foods, helps keep you from overeating. Now you reach for a delicious sweet candy instead of fattening foods—it kills the overpowering urge to overeat—to eat between meal-snacks. Your craving for rich, fattening foods is satisfied with this candy plan. Almost like magic you begin to enjoy this plan for reducing.

SENSATIONAL TWO-WAY GUARANTEE!

This sweet delicious Kelpidine Candy plan is guaranteed (1) to take off up to 10 pounds of excess weight in 10 days. (2) to taste better or as good as your favorite candy and to be the best plan you ever followed or you get your money back.

SCIENTIFICALLY AND CLINICALLY TESTED!

That amazing ingredient in Kelpidine candy is the most remarkable discovery for fat people ever made. It's been tested by doctors in test-after-test. The results were far better than doctors ever hoped for! The results were reported in medical journals throughout the world! Doctors are invited to write for details.

HERE'S HOW TO REDUCE AND STAY SLIM!

Most people are fat because of overeating—too much high calorie fattening foods—to your amazement you will want to keep on eating this delicious candy even after you have reduced to the weight that most becomes you and you'll keep your weight off that way!

AMAZING DISCOVERY OF SCIENCE!

The Kelpidine Candy plan is the result of scientific research for years for a new discovery for something that will stop your craving for fattening food and also satisfy your appetite. This delicious candy does not turn into ugly fat, it gives you the same feeling of fullness you have after you have eaten a satisfying meal. It kills your desire to overeat—it kills your craving for bedtime snacks and for in-between meal snacks. It's so safe even a child can take it without bad effects. With Kelpidine Candy all you taste is its deliciousness—you can't tell the difference!

IT'S UNHEALTHY TO BE FAT!

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KELPIDINE CANDY IS DIFFERENT!

The amazing clinical tested and proven reducing substance contained in Kelpidine Candy is prescribed by many doctors—Don't be misled by imitation products—Kelpidine Candy is the result of scientific research and is the last word in Reducing.

DON'T CUT OUT FOODS** CUT DOWN ON CALORIES!

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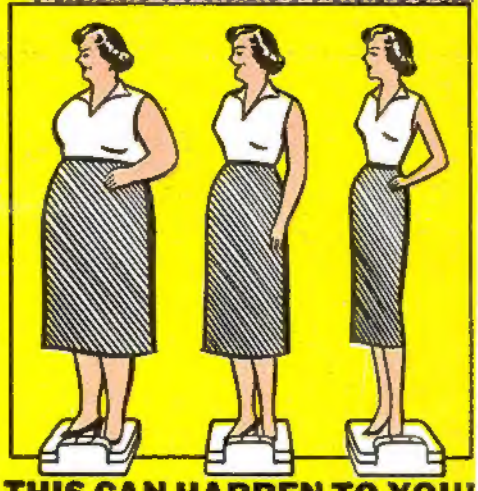
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

You must be entirely satisfied with your loss of weight—This candy must taste as good as or better than your favorite candy—You must get rid of dangerous excess fat or your money will be refunded—Don't delay—You have nothing to lose but excess weight so mail coupon below now!



THIS CAN HAPPEN TO YOU!

WITH THIS DELICIOUS REDUCING CANDY PLAN!

Let this delicious candy plan help you control your desire for fattening food! Let it help you put a stop to the habit of overeating—A habit that's so hard to break! Kelpidine candy contains that new discovery many doctors prescribe to help curb your desire to overeat (the main cause of overweight).

$1.00 TRIAL SIZE!

CUT OUT AND MAIL—NO RISK COUPON NOW!

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Candy Division,
318 Market Street, Newark, New Jersey

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☐ Rush a *Liberal Supply* of Kelpidine Candy plan. I enclose $3.00, send postage pre-paid. (I save up to 75c postage by sending payment with order.)

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